

Minutes of the Comprehensive Sustainable Energy Committee of December 2, 2008

Pursuant to notice filed with the Town Clerk, the Sustainable Energy Committee (Committee) met at 7:00 p.m. in the first Floor Meeting room at 141 Keyes Road.

Present:

Pamela Hathaway (Chair)
Eric Gamage (Vice Chair)
Sally Hughes
Sean Detweiler
Tyke Crowley

Ms. Hathaway convened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Mr. Crowley took minutes. He mentioned that the minutes would be ready for the next meeting.

New Members

Ms. Hathaway mentioned that the committee is trying to get new staff members, but no one has been approved yet.

Committee Structure and Housekeeping

Mr. Crowley discussed the status of staff liaison. He mentioned that the DPLM was accepting application for the new Senior Planner, who would hopefully arrive shortly after Mr. Crowley's departure. He commented that the Chair should maybe send an updated memo to the Town Manager, expressing their request to retain the Senior Planner as a staff liaison.

Update on Selectmen's Meeting

Ms. Hathaway summarized the meeting with the Selectmen. She mentioned how Mr. Crowley and Mr. Gamage attended the meeting. She told the Selectmen about the previous work of the committee and its focus on getting an audit for the Town. She also asked the Selectmen to review the energy use policy and was specifically by the Selectmen for a measureable goal to reduce energy use.

Committee Goals

Mr. Gamage reported on his progress to establish a carbon baseline for the Town. He mentioned that he and Mr. Crounse is collaborating to create this baseline.

Ms. Hathaway suggested that it was important to develop long term measureable goals to reduce carbon and electricity. She believes it has to be realistic, maybe not dependent on a baseline, but certainly has criteria or model to follow.

Mr. Gamage agreed to investigate this issue further

Signs

Ms. Hughes said that she got a price for a sign to acknowledge the Sawyer Fund, as required in the Trust terms. She talked to Billy Crosby to make the signs out of wood and passed around a sample of the inscription. Mr. Detweiler suggested some minor edits. Ms. Hughes volunteered to talk the edits back and make a sample sign.

Electricity Rate Structure

Ms. Hathaway asked about the status of the CLMP rate survey. She commented that hopefully the Committee will be able to discuss this issue in January.

Update on the Sawyer Trust

Mr. Crowley updated the members on 135 Keyes Road application. The Committee wanted Public Works to discuss the project with CLMP; determine if the units can be donated; determine whether or not the units are at the end of their life due and submit more information on the type of boiler replacement.

Update on Energy Audit

Mr. Crowley stated that the Town is reviewing three potential firms to conduct the audit. Mr. Detweiler continued that the three vendors were interviewed in late November, and one vendor stood out as the most capable. The stated that the Town is now checking on references.

ConcordCares Update

Mr. Crowley briefed the Committee that a quasi-town organization, CocrdCares, formed to help those struggling with high energy costs. He noted that one section of the group will focus on home heating aid, while the other group would look at weatherization support. He thought there would be opportunities for volunteering in the near future.

Tasks Assigned

The following tasks were assigned:

Pamela will work with Tyke to write letter regarding staff liaison replacement.

Sally will work on getting a quote for the signs.

Eric will further investigate the carbon baseline.

Tyke agreed to attend the ConcordCares meeting and update the members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyke Crowley, Clerk